



Department of Banking and Finance

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Sonny Perdue
Governor

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 20, 2007

THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND FINANCE'S FINAL CEASE AND DESIST ORDER AGAINST KAWANA MELVIN REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL APRIL 17, 2009

Atlanta, Georgia. December 20, 2007. - On March 7, 2006, an Initial Decision was handed down by the Office of State Administrative Hearings upholding the issuance of a Cease and Desist Order by the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance ("Department") to Kawana Melvin for submitting false information to a lender. This decision became final against Ms. Melvin on April 17, 2006.

A copy of the final decision against Kawana L. Melvin can be accessed on the Department's website through the following link:
[/vgn/images/portal/cit_1210/41/57/101271313C&D_KawanMelvin.pdf](http://vgn/images/portal/cit_1210/41/57/101271313C&D_KawanMelvin.pdf)

Pursuant to state law in effect at the time the Cease and Desist Order became final, mortgage lenders and brokers are prohibited from employing Ms. Melvin for a three-year period following the date of that final decision, or until April 17, 2009.

It recently has come to this agency's attention that a letter circulating in the mortgage community, which was purportedly issued by the Department, provides that Kawana Melvin is not prohibited from engaging in residential mortgage activities in this state.

This letter, which was NOT issued by the Department, contains false information regarding Ms. Melvin's eligibility to work in the mortgage industry. A Georgia residential mortgage licensee may not hire Kawana Melvin until April 17, 2009, without risking the revocation of its own license.

Please call the Department at (404) 986-1136 if you have any questions regarding this press release.

The Department has regulatory and/or licensing authority over state-chartered banks, credit unions, trust companies, mortgage brokers, mortgage lenders, mortgage processors, check cashers, sale of check companies, money transmitters, international banking organizations and bank holding companies conducting business in the state of Georgia. The Department currently supervises approximately 288 banks and 67 credit unions with assets over \$250 billion. The Department also licenses over 3,200 mortgage lenders, brokers and processors and over 800 check cashers, sale of check companies and money transmitters.

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